



# Africans and Britons in the Age of Empires, 1660-1980

*Myles Osborne, Susan Kingsley Kent*

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*Africans and Britons in the Age of Empires, 1660-1980* tells the stories of the intertwined lives of African and British peoples over more than three centuries. In seven chapters and an epilogue, Myles Osborne and Susan Kingsley Kent explore the characters that comprised the British presence in Africa: the slave traders and slaves, missionaries and explorers, imperialists and miners, farmers, settlers, lawyers, chiefs, prophets, intellectuals, politicians, and soldiers of all colors.

The authors show that the oft-told narrative of a monolithic imperial power ruling inexorably over passive African victims no longer stands scrutiny; rather, at every turn, Africans and Britons interacted with one another in a complex set of relationships that involved as much cooperation and negotiation as resistance and force, whether during the era of the slave trade, the world wars, or the period of decolonization. The British presence provoked a wide range of responses, reactions, and transformations in various aspects of African life; but at the same time, the experience of empire in Africa – and its ultimate collapse – also compelled the British to view themselves and their empire in new ways.

Written by an Africanist and a historian of imperial Britain and illustrated with maps and photographs, *Africans and Britons in the Age of Empires, 1660-1980* provides a uniquely rich perspective for understanding both African and British history.

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